

Title: Teaching Artist

Directly Reports To: Director of Programs

30 hours PTE

Compensation: Youth on Record believes that our employees are the best in the business; we seek to recruit, hire, and retain excellent people who bring a wealth of knowledge, wisdom, job-specific skills, leadership, artistic excellence, compassion, and cultural relevance to our work. As such, we are committed to providing competitive compensation to our employees, and we target salaries that employees are paid in the top third of comparable nonprofits in our region for similar jobs.

Benefits: Paid cell phone, fitness center membership, generous PTO package (refer to employee handbook), free parking, free access to recording studio for personal projects (when available), annual use of Youth Media Studio for approved personal events (such as graduations, baby showers, birthday party, etc.), flex schedule and the opportunity to work remotely when necessary

Location: 1301 W. 10th Ave. Denver, CO. 80204

The Teaching Artist position at Youth on Record enhances Youth on Record's mission by institutionalizing trauma-informed, liberatory and engaged, Nonviolent and career-connected pedagogical strategies that are academically and intellectually rigorous in Youth on Record classes. Teaching Artists teach for-credit classes in schools and residential treatment centers in the Denver-Metro area. Teaching Artists maintain consistent and professional relationships with the students and organizational leadership in the school/s they are partnered with. Teaching Artists fulfill the administrative responsibilities within their classes and schools (attendance, grading, lesson-planning, survey administration etc.). Teaching Artists actively participate in the Side by Side Professional Development Unit lead by Youth on Record but facilitated in partnership with Denver Public Schools. Teaching Artists actively participate in weekly seminars lead by the Director of Programs but in partnership with all Teaching Artists and relevant staff. Teaching Artists support Youth on Record's mission and vision by upholding its values, policies, practices and procedures.

Teaching Artist maintains the following qualities and efficiencies:

- Strong classroom management background, with experience in lesson planning and facilitation.
- Clear, direct communication style, and a strong understanding of one's personal communication style as it relates to the whole team.
- Innovative teaching and classroom management philosophies, as well as a strong understanding of Denver Public Schools Common Core Standards as defined by the school district.
- An orientation towards problem-solving.
- Willingness to self-reflect and grow in response to new ideas, information and constructive criticism.
- Willingness to approach colleagues with 'Nonviolent' communication strategies and with constructive criticism.

- Strong understanding of social identity, the multiplicity of socio-politico-historical economic and cultural factors and how they intersect dynamically with/in Youth on Record programs, schools, students, colleagues, self and society at-large.
- A firm understanding of the changing community landscape in Denver, and how these changes impact Youth on Record's work.
- Strong relationship-building skills and a track-record of working with local community organizations and service providers.
- Self-starter, able to generate results and succeed in an environment with a small, highly motivated staff.
- Two years of classroom experience and/or experience with working with underserved and marginalized teen populations.
- Two years of experience working as a professional within the arts and music industry.
- Strong connections to and relationships with the local music community in Colorado.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office products.
- Excellent writing skills.
- An advanced degree in a related field will be considered.
- Bi-lingual (Spanish) preferred.
- Artistic excellence outside of the classroom will be considered.

Teaching Artist fulfills the following primary responsibilities:

Classroom/School Responsibilities:

- Teach two classes throughout the academic school year
- Be present for all classes unless approved for time off or substituted in advance through substitution policy
- Arrive to class prepared to teach before the bell rings (prepared is defined as having picked up attendance roster, having set up the classroom space and having written a complete lesson plan
- Identify and meet daily, weekly and course learning objectives
- Identify and incorporate Colorado Common Core Standards in lesson-planning and curriculum design (and in partnership with Co-educator when relevant)
- Implement Youth on Record's pedagogical framework and strategies in class
- Facilitate healthy, inclusive and equitable classroom culture
- Update and submit grades (usually weekly) and necessary student paperwork according to Youth on Record and respective school protocol
- Follow all organizational and school specific codes of conduct unless given explicit permission by respective school Site Administrator
- Abide by city, state and federal rules and regulations
- When necessary, utilize behavior and discipline protocol as defined by respective school/s
- Build and maintain strong relationships with administrators and relevant teachers within respective school/s
- Host classroom visitors at Youth on Record's or school's request

Administration and Operations Responsibilities

- Direct relevant correspondence to Youth on Record Director of Programs (regarding Terms of Service Agreement, conflict etc.)
- Submit weekly class/program updates to Youth on Record Director of Programs
- Administer any and all necessary surveys (always the Youth on Record post-survey and others as assigned)
- Provide Director of Programs with class roster and grades following the completion of each block/quarter/trimester/semester
- Attend all mandatory meetings
- Maintain the Youth Media Studio in excellent condition according to the standards set by relevant Program Coordinators
- Care for and book time at the Youth Media Studio according to the protocols established by relevant Program Coordinators
- Use and check-out equipment according to policy and protocol established by relevant Program Coordinators
- Appear in media and press relations at Youth on Record's request as interested and available

Professional Development Responsibilities

- Attend and actively participate in Side by Side Professional Development Unit
- Attend and actively participate in weekly seminars with Director of Programs, fellow Teaching Artists and relevant staff
- Participate in Youth on Record's Support and Accountability structure/processes
- Participate in Youth on Record's Inner Life development structure/processes

About Youth on Record:

Founded in 2008, Youth on Record (YOR) is a nationally awarded organization with a mission to empower Colorado's underserved youth to achieve their academic, artistic, and personal best by employing local, professional artists as their educators. Ninety-three percent of the youth at YOR identify as youth of color and the service gaps they experience are major contributors to low graduation rates and disappointing levels of engagement in their own educations.

As an organization that values equity above all else, YOR is committed to ensuring that youth graduate from high school and are ready to enter the workforce, and transition to college or enter advanced technical training and careers. Through a model partnership that brings together the local music community, public schools, the nation's leading housing authority, and the philanthropic sector, YOR is a powerful example of what's possible when musicians and nonprofit/public sector leaders embrace an entrepreneurial spirit and band together around a common cause. The Youth Media Studio (YMS), an anchor tenant in a Denver Housing Authority (DHA) award-winning redevelopment effort, is critical to YORs increasingly holistic approach to uplifting the region's most vulnerable youth through access to

music. This focus on leveraging the arts to inspire at-risk young people to re-engage in their education and graduate, while providing advanced job skills and opportunities in the creative industries, makes YOR one-of-a-kind.

Since its founding, YOR has been bringing Colorado's most respected and talented musicians into high schools and youth residential treatment centers (RTCs). Credited as the most utilized music provider for Denver Public Schools, YORs intensive, out-of-school-time activities, for-credit high school classes, advanced technical career training, and the positive mentorships offered by musician-instructors are empowering young people in Denver's most vulnerable communities to graduate and develop the skills needed to enter the workforce or pursue a post-secondary education.